



Family Newsletter

Office of the Staff Judge Advocate
Fort Dix, New Jersey



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Preamble

The next year promises to be a busy one for the Fort Dix legal team. Since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, Fort Dix has become one of the busiest installations in the United States. Thousands of soldiers have mobilized here to help fight the war on terrorism. Our legal team is responsible for providing these soldiers with wills, powers of attorney, and other legal support. In addition, this flood of soldiers has increased the other legal work at Fort Dix, such as military justice and administrative law actions.

We currently have fourteen reserve soldiers from the 1079th Garrison Support Unit on our legal staff, led by Colonel David Woycik and Lieutenant Colonel Stuart Knade. We have also been augmented by dozens of soldiers from other reserve component units in the area. I would like to thank all of these soldiers for the sacrifice they made in leaving their jobs and families to help us. We simply could not accomplish the mission here without you!

This newsletter is designed to provide information to the families of our legal team. Please let me know what you think of this newsletter by contacting me at peter.masterton@dix.army.mil.

LTC Pete Masterton
Fort Dix Staff Judge Advocate

Unlimited Exchange Privileges for Families or Reservists

Thanks to the 1991 National Defense Authorization Act, reservists and National Guardsmen have unlimited shopping privileges at all Army and Air Force Exchange facilities in the continental United States. Many reserve soldiers and their families do not realize that they have this privilege.



Shopping at the exchange is tax-free and can result in savings of more than 20 percent. For more information on this benefit and AAFES retail stores, visit www.AAFES.com.

Army Community Services

Army Community Services has offices at installations all over the world with special programs developed to help soldiers and their families, especially during deployments.

Army Community Services was formed in 1965. At that time the organization's biggest program was the lending closet: spouses donated things that other soldiers and their families could use. Since then, Army Community Services programs have expanded dramatically. The Exceptional Family Member Program and the Family Readiness Group are examples of this expansion.



Army leaders found that some families needed training on what military resources are available. The Army Family Team Building Program is designed to provide this training. The program helps new spouses learn military language and provides training on tasks such as reading a military Leave and Earnings Statement. Army Family Team Building is part of a larger program called the Family Readiness Group. A Family Readiness Group is designed to provide training and support to soldiers' families, especially during stressful times such as deployments.

Some of the other programs offered or coordinated by Army Community Services include:

- Budget counseling;
- Emergency financial assistance;
- Child and spouse abuse treatment and prevention;
- Employment assistance;
- Exceptional family member resources;
- Relocation assistance;
- Deployment and mobilization support.

For more information, stop by the Fort Dix Army Community Services Office or call them at (609) 562-2767. You can also visit their Web site at <http://www.dixmwr.com/ACS/ACS.htm>.

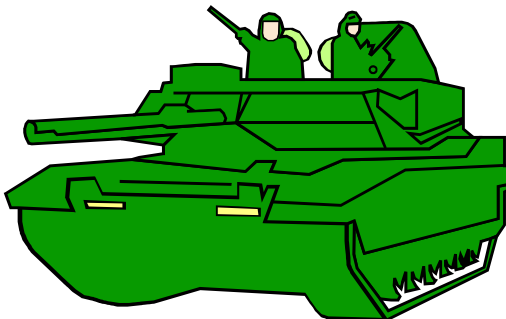
Employer Support

The National Committee for Employer Support to Guard and Reserve (ESGR) is a Department of Defense agency whose mission is to gain and maintain active support from all public and private employers of the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve.

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, <http://www.esgr.org/userra0.html>, serves to minimize the disadvantages to civilian careers and employment which can result from reserve service. It is designed to minimize the disruption to the lives of persons performing service in the uniformed services as well as to their employers, their fellow employees, and their communities; and to prohibit discrimination against persons because of their service in the uniformed services. The ESGR plays an important part in ensuring that employers comply with the act.

ESGR works with a community-based volunteer network of over 4,200 members, who serve in every state, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

ESGR has a program to recognize employers for their support of National Guard and Reserve members called "My Boss is a Patriot." Soldiers who are interested in nominating their employers for such an award should contact the ESGR. For more information, check out the ESGR web site at <http://www.esgr.org/>



Mobilization Statistics

As of 28 Oct 02, there were 58,133 National Guard and Reserve mobilized in support of the president's partial mobilization. Title 10 U.S Code, section 12302, authorizes President to order up to 1,000,000 members of the Ready Reserve to active duty for not more than 24 consecutive months, <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/>.

The last partial mobilization order occurred on January 18, 1991 during Operation Desert Storm; 265,322 National Guard and Reservist members were mobilized.

There are approximately 1,250,000 members of the Reserve Forces. Those potentially affected by a partial mobilization of the Ready Reserve are 871,256 members of the Selected Reserve (drilling) and 353,374 members of the Individual Ready Reserve and Inactive National Guard. Below are comparisons of reserve soldiers called to active duty in past crises:

Conflict	Called To Duty	Volunteered	Total
Joint Guardian Kosovo 1999 To Present	8,844	5,859 ¹	14,703
Desert Spring Southern & Northern Watch, Southwest Asia 1991 To Present	6,071	50,695 ¹	56,766

Joint Forge Bosnia 1995 To Present	28,147	24,721 ¹	52,868
Uphold Democracy Haiti 1994 To 1996	6,100	2,000 ²	8,100
Somalia – 1993	0	343	343
Desert Storm/ Desert Shield 1990 To 1991	239,187	26,135	265,322
Panama – 1989 To 1990	0	7,323	7,323
Grenada – 1983	0	417	417
Vietnam – 1965 to 1973	37,643		37,643
Cuban Missile Crisis	14,200		14,200
Berlin Crisis Of 1961	148,034		148,034
Korean War	857,877		857,877

for the majority of RC support is two weeks or less.

Army Knowledge Online

Army Knowledge Online ([AKO](#)) recently added a My Legal Self-Service area to provide soldiers and other AKO users quick access to general legal information and links. The My Legal page includes links to Legal Services, the Army's public preventive legal information site; the Claims information site; and Trial Defense Service, the site for information on military criminal and adverse administrative action advice. In addition, My Legal includes a "Legal Self-Help Center" with links to American Bar Association legal resources, and a Consumer Help area with links to consumer resources.

E-mail is just one feature of the larger AKO initiative. It includes a useful function to help you find e-mail addresses for other AKO users: the AKO White Pages, where soldiers can search for other soldiers. Check it out on the AKO Home page (upper left corner) after you log in to [AKO](#).

SOURCE: OASD/RA and Congressional Research Service.

NOTES: ¹ These numbers are primarily Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve personnel. Each number represents one time a member supported these operations, either CONUS or OCONUS, no matter if for one day or one year. One member may be counted here numerous times depending on how times he or she supported the operation. The duration